

Message

What you need to know to start your day.

From: Bloomberg Environment -
Environment & Energy
Report
[bloomberg@bna.com]
Sent: 4/25/2018 10:03:48 AM
To: Grifo, Francesca
[Grifo.Francesca@epa.gov]
Subject: First Move: Macron
Marches to Hill • House
Debates Dams, Salmon •
EPA and Science

**Bloomberg
Environment**

The Environment & Energy Report is brought to you by the EPA National Library Network. Please note, these materials may be copyrighted and should not be forwarded outside of the U.S. EPA. If you have any questions or no longer wish to receive these messages, please email epalibrarynetwork@epa.gov.

Macron Marches to Hill • House Debates Dams, Salmon • EPA and Science

By Chuck McCutcheon

French President Emmanuel Macron addresses Congress today. He's likely to stress that climate change cooperation between his country and the U.S. is occurring in some ways—if not politically.

Macron said yesterday that he and President Trump discussed the latter's decision to begin pulling the U.S. out of the Paris Agreement climate deal. The French leader indicated that he's taking what he can get for now and staying persistent.



“Our business people, our scientists, work very closely together, and we want to increase this cooperation,” Macron told reporters. “We know everything about the treaties and the international agreements, but I think beyond that, we have a lot in common to work on, and we will follow up this discussion in the coming weeks and months.” [Dean Scott](#) is monitoring.

DAM BILL: The House wades into a long-running Pacific Northwest debate: It’s expected to vote as early as today on a bill that proponents say would protect several big Snake River hydroelectric dams that critics contend would decimate salmon.

The bill would require Congress to approve any dam modifications, such as the spilling of water through fish passages rather than hydroelectric turbines, during the next four years. Its backers—many of them Republicans—say a federal judge’s decision to permit water spills to help migrating salmon and steelhead will cost \$40 million in 2018 alone, an amount that will be passed on to electricity ratepayers.

But environmental groups and Democrats warn the bill would help nudge salmon closer to extinction. They also cite a recent consultant’s [study](#) that says lost hydropower from the dams’ breach could be replaced with solar, wind, and more efficient energy use. [Alan Kovski](#) is following.

EPA AND SCIENCE: EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt wants to change the way the agency uses science to make policy. One aspect of his proposal would allow the EPA to pick and choose which scientific studies to exclude when making science-based policies, [Jennifer Lu](#) and [Abby Smith](#) write in a story [being published today](#).

“This could affect virtually every risk assessment or regulatory action based on science that EPA takes,” says Steve Milloy, founder of JunkScience.com who’s long pushed for this policy step. “The impact could be huge. I hope that it is huge.”

But some observers are raising the possibility that the EPA’s proposal rests on shaky legal ground. Democrats are questioning its legality and seeking a slew of information about it.

OTHER STORIES WE’RE COVERING

- Pesticide trade association CropLife America is holding a regulatory conference today through Friday in Arlington, Va. Participants will focus on global pesticide and agriculture trends, pesticide safety, rare species reviews, and global labeling instructions. Ayanna Alexander is covering.
- The European Parliament's environment committee votes on legislation on the monitoring and reporting of trucks' carbon dioxide emissions. Stephen Gardner is watching.
- The Senate's rules committee votes on a proposal aimed at rolling back the amount of debate Democrats can require once cloture has been filed on a nominee. Democrats' insistence on the maximum 30 hours of debate, in some cases, has slowed confirmation votes on Trump's choices. Bloomberg Government is monitoring.
- The House Natural Resources Committee holds a hearing on a tool of environmental groups that Republicans contend has turned into a nagging weapon: the National Environmental Policy Act. NEPA is one of the favorite laws—maybe *the* favorite—for legal challenges to federal actions, such as approvals for a wide range of commercial and industrial projects. Alan Kovski is monitoring.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Delays and mischaracterization of science is in no one's interest."

—Trish Koman, a University of Michigan School of Public Health environmental researcher who worked at the EPA for two decades, criticizing the agency's change to the way it uses science to make policy.

AROUND THE WEB

- The EPA is doling out \$40 million in grants to make diesel engines cleaner and more efficient.
- A new analysis of more than 600 of the largest publicly U.S. traded companies found nearly two-thirds have pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but only 36 percent have set deadlines for action and just 9 percent have set targets in line with the Paris climate agreement's goals.
- Child exposure to toxic flame-retardant dust dropped by as much as 90 percent in a new study of seven Seattle child-care centers where researchers swapped sleep mats containing flame retardants for mats without the compounds.

TODAY'S EVENTS

- **12 p.m. • Brownfields** • American Bar Association's Superfund committee [holds conference call](#) on developing renewable energy projects on brownfields sites.
- **2 p.m. • NRC** • Senate Appropriations energy panel [hearing](#) on Nuclear Regulatory Commission's budget request for fiscal year 2019.
- **3:30 p.m. • Sustainable Energy** • Bloomberg Government and Norwegian-American Chamber of Commerce [host forum](#) in New York on investing in a sustainable energy future.
- **6:30 p.m. • Oceans** • Carnegie Institution for Science sponsors webcast [lecture](#) on the sustainable use of the ocean featuring Jane Lubchenco, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's former administrator.

For all of today's Bloomberg Environment headlines, visit [Environment & Energy Report](#)

Bloomberg Environment

1801 South Bell Street, Arlington, VA 22202

[Copyright](#) © 2018 The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc.

[Manage Your Subscriptions](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Web Version](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Terms of Service](#)